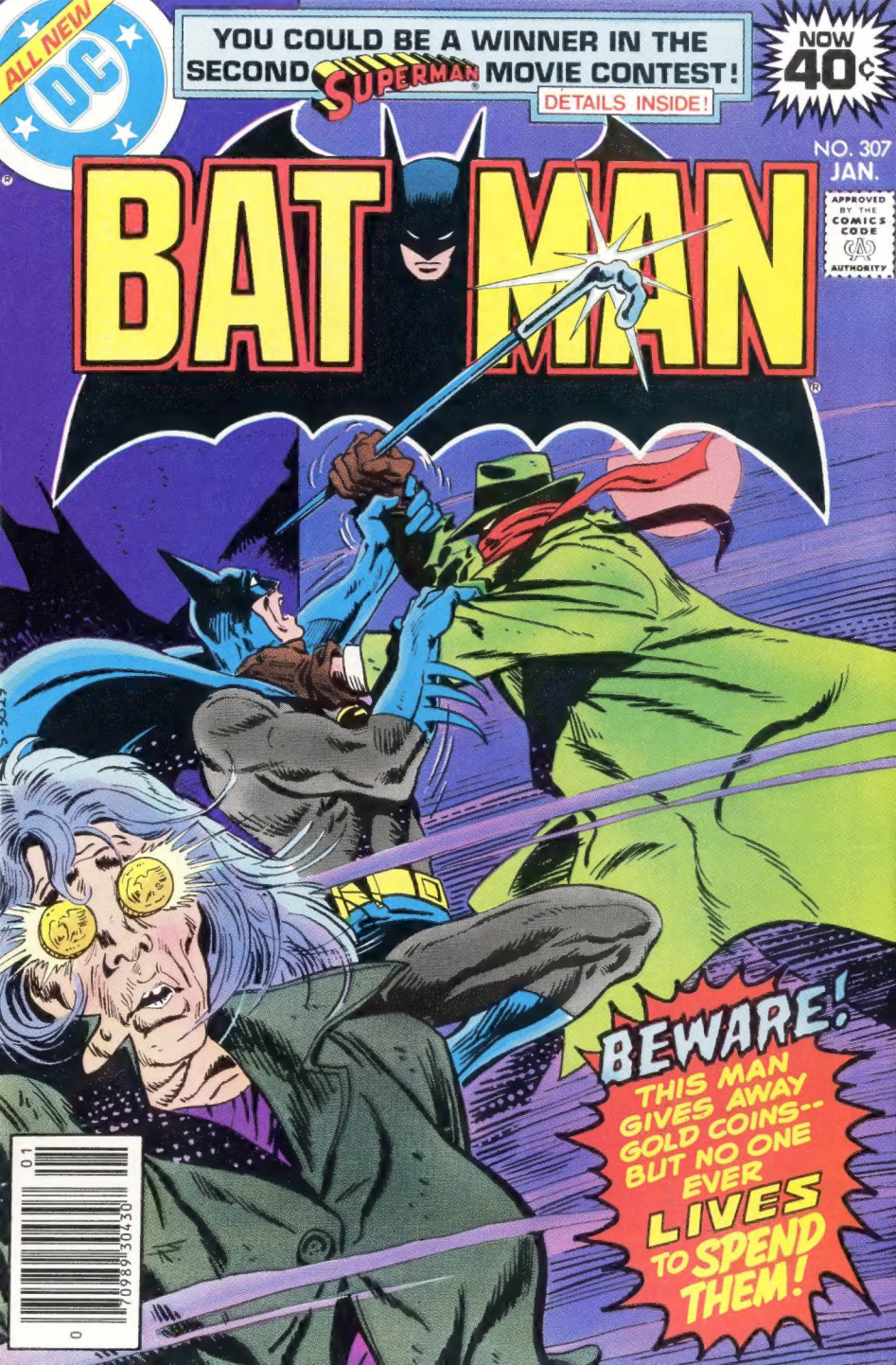
ALL NEW
DC
YOU COULD BE A WINNER IN THE SECOND SUPERMAN MOVIE CONTEST!
DETAILS INSIDE!
NOW 40¢
NO. 307
JAN.
BATMAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BEWARE!
THIS MAN GIVES AWAY GOLD COINS-- BUT NO ONE EVER LIVES TO SPEND THEM!

FUN FACTORY

DEPT. D-1041
117 UNION STREET
PALISADES PARK, N.J. 07650

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Just light one and thick clouds rise to the ceiling. Watch them fill the room! Used for magic tricks, signaling, etc.

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THROW YOUR VOICE!
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ORPHANED AS A CHILD WHEN HIS PARENTS WERE MURDERED BEFORE HIS EYES, *BRUCE WAYNE* HAS TRAINED HIMSELF TO WAGE RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST CRIME AS THE DREAD *AVENGER OF THE NIGHT*...

BAT·MAN

CREATED BY BOB KANE

FOR AS LONG AS ANYONE COULD *REMEMBER*, IT HAD BEEN THE BALLERINA'S *CORNER*!
EVERY NIGHT, SHE COULD BE *FOUND* HERE IN THIS UNDERGROUND *ARCADE*, STILL STRUGGLING TO *SALVAGE* SOME SMALL PIECE OF HER *DREAM*...
THE BATMAN'S GREATEST CASES
STARTING SUNDAY IN THE GOTHAM GAZETTE
SPARE *CHANGE*? SPARE A FEW COINS, MISTER?

BATMAN ®, Vol. 40, No. 307, January, 1979. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices. Copyright © 1978 by DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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THE BATMAN'S GREATEST CASES
STARTING SUNDAY IN THE GOTHAM GAZETTE
SHIELD'S LIGHTING
GIFT
THEN, WITH AN AWKWARD HOBBLING SHUFFLE, AND A SOFT SIGH OF RELIEF, THE DARK-CLAD FIGURE IS GONE--
--LEAVING THE FINAL FRAGILE FRAGMENTS OF THE BALLERINA'S DREAM SPRAWLED IN THE DUST BEHIND HIM!
...MAY YOU SLEEP WELL!
DARK MESSENGER OF MERCY!
A JOURNEY TO THE PLACES WHERE THE SUN NEVER SHINES, WITH --
LEN WEIN WRITER
JOHN CALNAN & DICK GIORDANO ARTISTS
GLYNIS WEIN COLORIST
BEN ODA LETTERER
JULIUS SCHWARTZ EDITOR

ACROSS THE TOWERING SKYLINE OF GOTHAM CITY, ONE BUILDING STANDS OUT FROM ALL THE REST--
--THE GLEAMING WAYNE FOUNDATION!
HERE, IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF BRUCE WAYNE, THE FORTUNES OF OTHERS ARE MADE AND RUINED, THE ECONOMIES OF NATIONS ARE TRANSFORMED...
--AND MY INFORMANTS TELL ME ROXXON STOCK WILL SPLIT AGAIN WITHIN THE MONTH!
EXCELLENT, LUCIUS! IS THAT ALL FOR TODAY?
NOT QUITE, BRUCE--THERE'S ONE THING MORE!
HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A MAN NAMED GREGORIAN FALSTAFF?
CONSIDERING MY FINANCIAL CIRCLE, THAT'S A LITTLE LIKE ASKING IF I'VE EVER HEARD THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER, ISN'T IT?
SINCE THE DEATH OF HOWARD HUGHES, FALSTAFF HAS BECOME THIS COUNTRY'S MOST FAMOUS BILLIONAIRE RECLUSE! HE'S RUMORED TO HAVE A FORTUNE WHICH MAKES MINE LOOK LIKE SO MUCH LUNCH MONEY!
THOUGH I KNOW I'LL REGRET THE ANSWER, LUCIUS--WHY DO YOU ASK?
ACCORDING TO MY SOURCES, FALSTAFF HAS JUST PURCHASED THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL--AND INSTALLED HIMSELF ON THE TOP THREE FLOORS!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING HERE, BRUCE--BUT WHATEVER IT IS, IT CAN'T BODE THE WAYNE FOUNDATION ANY GOOD!
YOU MAY WELL BE RIGHT, MR. FOX--BUT IT'S SOMETHING WE'LL HAVE TO DISCUSS IN THE MORNING!
IT'S SUNDOWN--AND I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO ATTEND TO RIGHT NOW!
THINGS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THIS FOUNDATION?
9

NOT MORE IMPORTANT, LUCIUS--AS IMPORTANT! THERE'S A DIFFERENCE!
BESIDES, SO LONG AS YOU'RE MY SECOND-IN-COMMAND, WAYNE ENTERPRISES HAS NOTHING MUCH TO WORRY ABOUT!
I HOPE NOT, BRUCE--I SINCERELY HOPE NOT!
AND IF LUCIUS FOX IS DUBIOUS NOW, IMAGINE HOW HE'D FEEL IF HE COULD SEE HIS ERRANT EMPLOYER ENTERING THE SECRET ELEVATOR WHICH LEADS TO HIS PENTHOUSE--
--TO BEGIN THE BATMAN'S WORKING DAY!
'EVENING, ALFRED! WHAT'S THE SITUATION?
ONE BANK ROBBERY--FOUR VICIOUS ASSAULTS --THE USUAL ASSORTMENT OF PETTY THEFTS AND MUGGINGS...OH, AND ONE THING MORE!
AN ELDERLY WOMAN--A SUBWAY DERELICT--WAS FOUND MURDERED JUST BEFORE DAWN, WITH GOLD COINS COVERING HER EYES!
AN OLD SHOPPING-BAG LADY, EH? TELL ME MORE!
YOU'LL FIND THE DETAILS LAID OUT WITH YOUR CLOTHING, MASTER BRUCE.
I ASSUMED YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED--SO I HAD THE BAT-COMPUTER GLEAN ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION JUST BEFORE YOU ARRIVED HOME!
YOU KNOW ME WELL, OLD FRIEND--ALMOST TOO WELL!
WELL ENOUGH TO REALIZE YOU COULD LET NO MURDERER GO UNPUNISHED, MASTER BRUCE--NO MATTER HOW INCONSEQUENTIAL HIS VICTIM!
WHEN I START MAKING VALUE JUDGMENTS--DECIDING WHO'S IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO AVENGE--
--IT'LL BE TIME TO HANG UP MY MASK FOREVER!
SEE YOU LATER, ALFRED!
GOOD NIGHT, MASTER BRUCE...AND GOOD HUNTING!
4

CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING.

ADVERTISEMENT

SUPERMAN in "AN UNBEATABLE POWER!"

MY BEAM OF KRYPTONITE WILL KEEP YOU POWERLESS, SUPERMAN. NOW NOTHING STANDS IN THE WAY OF MY PLANETARY CONQUEST!
WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP SUPERMAN. THERE'S NO ONE ELSE!
WE'VE GOT TO GET BIG DOME'S HANDS OFF THOSE CONTROLS!!
KRYPTONITE BEAM
HE WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP HIS HANDS OFF HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES.
I'D TAKE CARE OF YOU, SUPERMAN. BUT I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL OF DELICIOUS TWINKIES CAKES.
YOU'RE POWERLESS, BIG DOME. BUT I'M NOT. THANKS TO YOU KIDS!!!
DON'T THANK US, SUPERMAN. THANK HOSTESS TWINKIES CAKES.
NO ONE CAN RESIST THIS DELICIOUS GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE AND YUMMY CREAMED FILLING.
TWINKIES CAKES HAVE A POWER ALL THEIR OWN!!!
Twinkies
Twinkies
YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES

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THE SECOND SUPERMAN THE MOVIE CONTEST!

FIRST PRIZE

THE ACTUAL **CAPE** WORN BY CHRISTOPHER REEVE IN THE FILMING OF *SUPERMAN THE MOVIE!*

10 SECOND PRIZES

A PAGE OF **ORIGINAL SUPERMAN ARTWORK!**

UNLIMITED THIRD PRIZES

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1. At the bottom of all DC Comics' letters and text pages dated JANUARY and FEBRUARY (FEBRUARY and MARCH in the case of the DC Dollar Comics) you will find one of 25 numbered trivia questions concerning the Superman Family of characters. To enter, simply answer all 25 questions correctly, listing the lettered answer to all 25 questions on the back of a postcard. Mail these postcards to "The Second Great Superman Movie Contest," DC Comics Inc., Post Office Box 116, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10019.
2. Only ONE ENTRY per person will be accepted, and each entry MUST be on a postcard. In the event of more than one entry from a single contestant, all entries from that contestant will be invalid. Entries sent in envelopes will not be accepted.
3. All entries with correct answers to all 25 questions will be placed in the first and second prize drawings. The first card drawn will receive the actual cape worn by Christopher Reeve in the Warner Brothers' motion picture **SUPERMAN**. The next ten cards drawn will receive the second prize, one page of original **SUPERMAN** artwork drawn by Curt Swan. All other entries with correct answers to all 25 questions will receive two-year subscriptions to their favorite DC comic book.
4. All entries with correct answers to between 15 and 24 questions will receive a one-year subscription to their favorite DC comic book.
5. All entries must be received by DC Comics before January 2, 1979. The drawings for the one first prize and the ten second prizes will be held at DC Comics on January 8, 1979.
6. Employees of Warner Communications Inc. and its subsidiaries and affiliates, and DC Comics' free-lance artists, writers, colorists and letterers, any of the participating wholesalers of Independent News Company, and the immediate familes of those employees are specifically excluded from this contest.
7. Contest void where prohibited by law and subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. There are no age or racial restrictions; males and females are equally eligible to win.

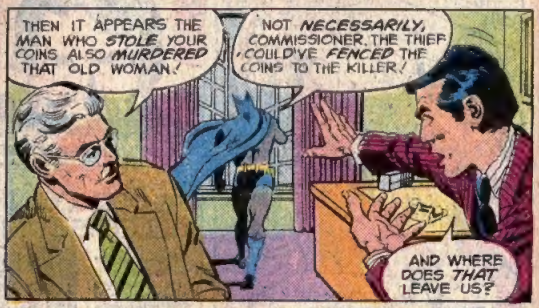
ENTER TODAY!

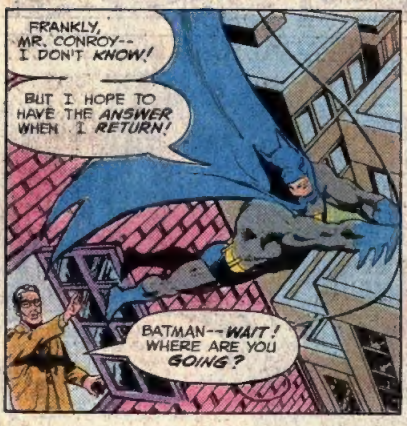
SHORTLY, IN THE OFFICES OF POLICE COMMISSIONER JAMES W. GORDON...
I'M A TAX-PAYING CITIZEN, GORDON--AND I WON'T BE IGNORED!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, GLORIA--I'LL SEE THE GENTLEMAN!
I'M SORRY, SIR! I TRIED TO KEEP HIM OUT, BUT--!
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, MISTER--?
CONROY! QUENTIN CONROY! AND WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR ME IS RETURN MY PERSONAL PROPERTY!
WHAT PROPERTY IS THAT?
DON'T PLAY IGNORANT WITH ME, GORDON! IT'S ALL HERE IN THIS AFTERNOON'S PAPER!
THOSE GOLD COINS--THE ONES THEY FOUND ON THAT OLD LADY--ARE PART OF A PRICELESS COLLECTION!
GOTHAM GAZETTE
GOLD COIN KILLER SOUGHT
THAT COLLECTION WAS STOLEN FROM ME, COMMISSIONER, AND I WANT IT BACK--ALL OF IT!
A MOST INTRIGUING PROBLEM, MR. CONROY! TELL ME MORE!
WHO--?!?
THE BATMAN!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
MERELY LISTENING TO YOUR VISITOR'S PROBLEM, COMMISSIONER!
PLEASE GO ON, MR. CONROY--I'D LIKE TO HEAR IT ALL!
6

THERE'S NOT MUCH MORE TO TELL! THOSE COINS WERE STOLEN FROM A SAFE IN MY APARTMENT--
--AND NOW TWO OF THEM HAVE TURNED UP ON THE EYES OF A CORPSE!
I TELL YOU, I WANT ACTION--!
COIN SOUGHT

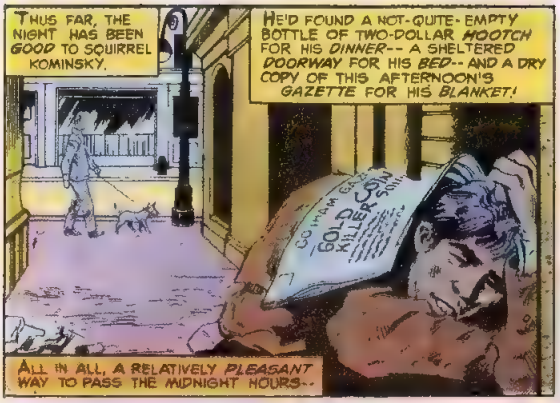
AND YOU'LL GET IT, MR. CONROY!
WHEN DID YOU FIRST NOTICE YOUR COINS WERE MISSING?
THIS AFTERNOON, WHEN I READ ABOUT THE KILLING IN THE PAPER! TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE, I DECIDED TO CHECK THE COLLECTION--
--AND THE REST YOU ALREADY KNOW!

NOT QUITE ALL OF IT, MR. CONROY! TELL ME ABOUT YOUR SAFE!
ABSOLUTELY BURGLAR-PROOF--OR SO YOUR PRECIOUS POLICE DEPARTMENT TOLD ME!
IT WASN'T FORCED OPEN--OR BLASTED OPEN--THE ALARMS WEREN'T DISTURBED--BUT I STILL FOUND IT EMPTY!

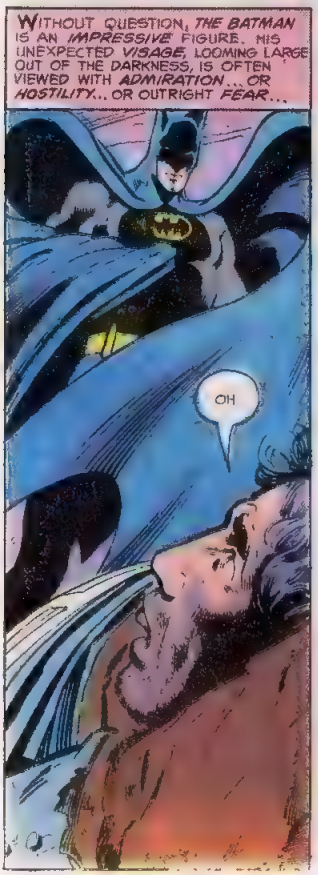

THEN IT APPEARS THE MAN WHO STOLE YOUR COINS ALSO MURDERED THAT OLD WOMAN!
NOT NECESSARILY, COMMISSIONER. THE THIEF COULD'VE FENCED THE COINS TO THE KILLER!
AND WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE US?


FRANKLY, MR. CONROY--I DON'T KNOW!
BUT I HOPE TO HAVE THE ANSWER WHEN I RETURN!
BATMAN--WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

BLAST--HE'S ALREADY GONE!
THERE ARE TIMES THAT MAN INFURIATES ME!
6

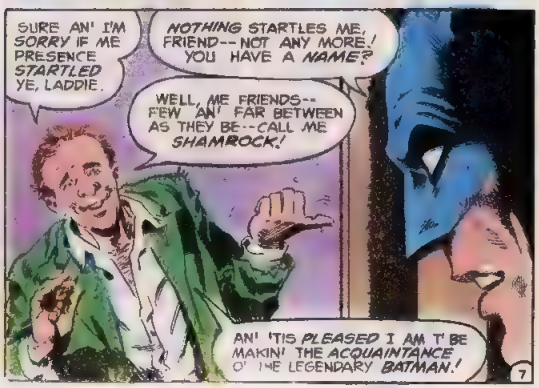

THUS FAR, THE NIGHT HAS BEEN GOOD TO SQUIRREL KOMINSKY.
HE'D FOUND A NOT-QUITE-EMPTY BOTTLE OF TWO-DOLLAR HOOTCH FOR HIS DINNER-- A SHELTERED DOORWAY FOR HIS BED-- AND A DRY COPY OF THIS AFTERNOON'S GAZETTE FOR HIS BLANKET!
COLD KILLER
ALL IN ALL, A RELATIVELY PLEASANT WAY TO PASS THE MIDNIGHT HOURS--

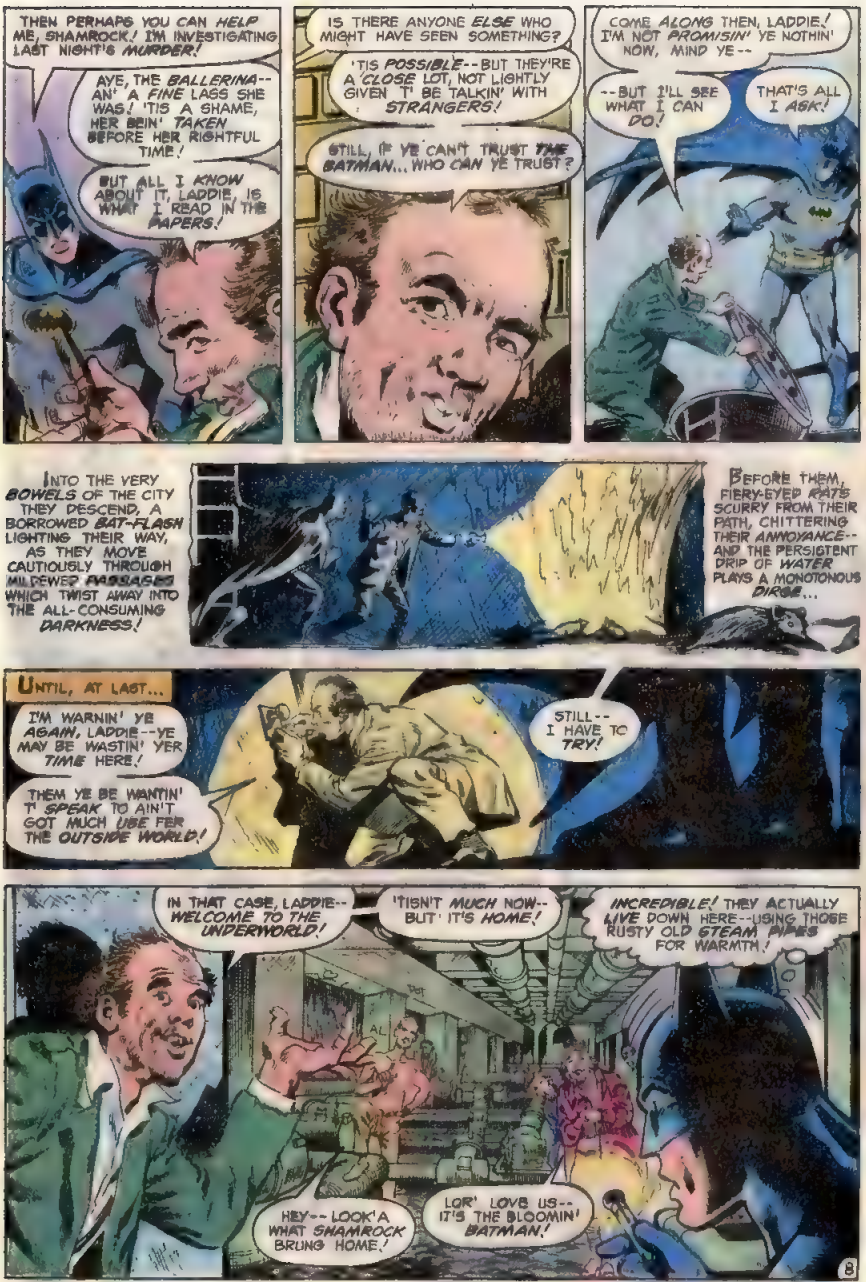
--IF NOT FOR THE CONSTANT INTERRUPTIONS!
MY FRIEND, I'D LIKE WORDS WITH YOU!
HUH?


WITHOUT QUESTION, THE BATMAN IS AN IMPRESSIVE FIGURE. HIS UNEXPECTED VISAGE, LOOMING LARGE OUT OF THE DARKNESS, IS OFTEN VIEWED WITH ADMIRATION...OR HOSTILITY...OR OUTRIGHT FEAR...
OH

...BUT RARELY WITH INDIFFERENCE!
ZZZZZZZZZZZZ
HEY-- I'M TALKING TO YOU, MISTER!

THEN I'M AFRAID YER WASTIN' YER BREATH, LADDIE!
THAT ONE AIN'T HOME IN THE HEAD NO MORE!
WHO--?


SURE AN' I'M SORRY IF ME PRESENCE STARTLED YE, LADDIE.
NOTHING STARTLES ME, FRIEND--NOT ANY MORE! YOU HAVE A NAME?
WELL, ME FRIENDS--FEW AN' FAR BETWEEN AS THEY BE--CALL ME SHAMROCK!
AN' 'TIS PLEASED I AM T' BE MAKIN' THE ACQUAINTANCE O' THE LEGENDARY BATMAN!


THEN PERHAPS YOU CAN HELP ME, SHAMROCK! I'M INVESTIGATING LAST NIGHT'S MURDER!
AYE, THE BALLERINA--AN' A FINE LASS SHE WAS! 'TIS A SHAME, HER BEIN' TAKEN BEFORE HER RIGHTFUL TIME!
BUT ALL I KNOW ABOUT IT, LADDIE, IS WHAT I READ IN THE PAPERS!
IS THERE ANYONE ELSE WHO MIGHT HAVE SEEN SOMETHING?
'TIS POSSIBLE--BUT THEY'RE A CLOSE LOT, NOT LIGHTLY GIVEN T' BE TALKIN' WITH STRANGERS!
STILL, IF YE CAN'T TRUST THE BATMAN... WHO CAN YE TRUST?
COME ALONG THEN, LADDIE! I'M NOT PROMISIN' YE NOTHIN' NOW, MIND YE--
--BUT I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO!
THAT'S ALL I ASK!
INTO THE VERY BOWELS OF THE CITY THEY DESCEND, A BORROWED BAT-FLASH LIGHTING THEIR WAY, AS THEY MOVE CAUTIOUSLY THROUGH MILDEWED PASSAGES WHICH TWIST AWAY INTO THE ALL-CONSUMING DARKNESS!
BEFORE THEM, FIERY-EYED RATS SCURRY FROM THEIR PATH, CHITTERING THEIR ANNOYANCE--AND THE PERSISTENT DRIP OF WATER PLAYS A MONOTONOUS DIRGE...
UNTIL, AT LAST...
I'M WARNIN' YE AGAIN, LADDIE--YE MAY BE WASTIN' YER TIME HERE!
THEM YE BE WANTIN' T' SPEAK TO AIN'T GOT MUCH USE FER THE OUTSIDE WORLD!
STILL--I HAVE TO TRY!
IN THAT CASE, LADDIE--WELCOME TO THE UNDERWORLD!
'TISN'T MUCH NOW--BUT IT'S HOME!
INCREDIBLE! THEY ACTUALLY LIVE DOWN HERE--USING THOSE RUSTY OLD STEAM PIPES FOR WARMTH!
HEY--LOOK'A WHAT SHAMROCK BRUNG HOME!
LOR' LOVE US--IT'S THE BLOOMIN' BATMAN!
8
CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING

IT'S FUN
for every one!
NO SUGAR TO HARM YOUR TEETH!
OK WITH MOMS OF THE WORLD!
Soft, Juicy Chunks!
GREAT TASTE
Amazing BUBBLES- 4 Long-Lasting FLAVORS!
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Soft 'n Sugarfree
T.M.
BUBBLE GUM

FILL-IN COUPON, CUT OUT, PASTE OR TAPE TO FRONT OF ENVELOPE!

Yes! I want to earn a Star Wars™ watch and other prizes. Rush! Send me my FREE Y.O.S.C. wonder kit. Send me prize catalog and all premiums at absolutely no obligation.

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Y·O·S·C

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY SALES CLUB
P. O. BOX 530, DEPT. 32
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63166

BATMAN, I'D LIKE T' BE PRESENTIN'..
... SLUGGER, PRIZE OUTFIELDER OF THE '48 GOTHAM GIANTS...
PLEASED TA MEET'CHA!
... POET, THE SHAKESPEARE OF THE SEWERS..
I BID YOU MOST WELCOME, GOOD SIR!
..AND HER GRACIOUS LADYSHIP, GOOD QUEEN BESS!
YOU MAY KISS THE 'AND, LUV!
IF ANYONE CAN ANSWER YER QUESTIONS, LADDIE--'TIS THESE THREE!
AND METHINKS WE KNOW WHY YOU HAVE COME, GOOD SIR!
SURE, YER TRY'NA FIND OUT WHO CROAKED DA BALLERINA AN' DA UDDERS!
OTHERS--?
AYE, SIR-- TWO OTHERS! WE FOUND THEM DEAD-- WITH GILDED COINS UPON THEIR EYES!
AN' SINCE THEY DIDN'T 'AVE NO MORE USE FOR THEM COINS-- WELL, WE COPPED 'EM 'FORE THE BOBBIES SHOWED UP!
'ERE, GUV'NOR--BEST YOU TAKE 'EM! THESE BLINKIN' COINS ARE TAINTED BY DEATH!
THEY'RE JINXED, IS WHAT THEY ARE!
AYE, GOOD SIR--SEVERAL OF OUR FELLOWS TOOK SORELY ILL BY MERELY TOUCHING THE CURSED LUCRE!
AND NO WONDER! THESE COINS ARE COATED WITH A FAST-ACTING CONTACT POISON--
--ONE WHICH IS ABSORBED THROUGH THE PORES OF THE SKIN!
IF PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO THE AIR HADN'T DIMINISHED THE POTENCY OF THE POISON, YOUR FRIENDS WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE THAN MERELY...
EEEEEEEE
?
EEEEEE

COR BLIMEY--THAT SCREAM--! IT SOUNDED LIKE EADER EDITH!
NO! SOMEBODY GOTTA DO SUMTHIN' TA HELP HER!!
BUT THE BATMAN IS ALREADY ON HIS WAY--
--AND WITHIN SECONDS...
I-IT'S HIM-- THE GOLD COIN KILLER! H-HE TRIED TA GIVE ME THOSE!
WELL, IN GOD'S NAME-- DON'T TOUCH THEM! THEY'RE POISON--LITERALLY!
AND THE MAN WHO TRIED TO PASS THEM TO YOU IS QUITE LITERALLY INSANE--
--A COLD-BLOODED MURDERER!!
UNNNGH
WHUMP!
WOK
NO-- YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! IT ISN'T MURDER-- IT'S MERCY!
THEY'RE SO LONELY--SO FORLORN! I'M TRYING TO BRING THEM PEACE!
JUST AS I SHALL BRING YOU PEACE, BATMAN--'LESS YOU LEAVE ME FREE TO DO WHAT I MUST!
CHUD

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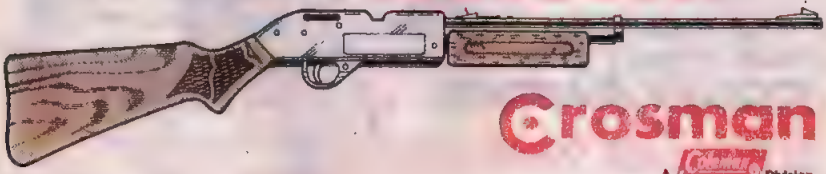

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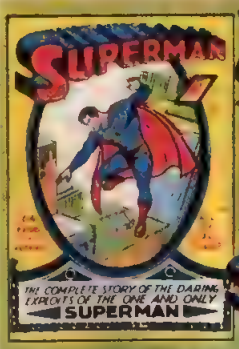

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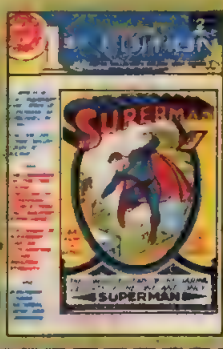

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HE'S ABNORMALLY STRONG--FIGHTING LIKE A MAN POSSESSED!
HAVE TO GET HIM OFF ME--GIVE MYSELF AN OPENING--!
FOOL! I OFFERED YOU A CHANCE TO SURVIVE! NOW I WILL DEAL WITH YOU IN MY OWN FASHION!
NO ONE--NOTHING--MUST STAND IN THE WAY OF MY SACRED MISSION!
WRANNGG!
I AM A MESSENGER--A MESSENGER OF MERCY!
AND I WILL BRING THESE LOST AND LONELY SOULS THE ONLY PEACE THEY HAVE EVER KNOWN!
SAINTS--BUT IT COULDN'T BE HIM!!
INDEED NOT, FRIEND SHAMROCK--AND YET IT IS!
THAT MANIAC'S ESCAPING--BUT I CAN'T GO AFTER HIM!
THE STEAM PIPE HE STRUCK HAS STARTED TO CRACK--!
LOR' LOVE US--'E'S COME BACK FROM TH' BLOOMIN' GRAVE!
HAVE TO MOVE FAST--GET BETWEEN THE PIPE AND MY FOUR TATTERED FRIENDS--!
THE BLASTED THING IS GOING TO--EXPLODE--!!
KA-VOOM
WHOK
AARRGGHHH

AND WHEN THE DAMAGED DARK KNIGHT HAS USHERED HIS TREMBLING CHARGES TO SAFETY..
ARE YE HURTIN' BAD NOW, LADDIE?
IT'S NOTHING, SHAMROCK--ONLY AN INJURED SHOULDER! I'LL SURVIVE!
INDEED, SIR--BUT SHALL WE?
YEAH--EVEN A GUY LIKE YOU AIN'T NO MATCH FER A GHOST!
I'LL RESERVE COMMENT ON THAT! TELL ME MORE!
SURE AN' THE BOYO USED T' BE JUST LIKE US--A SLEEPER IN DOORWAYS--ONE O' THE DISCARDED!
BUT, TEN, FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, TH' BLIGHTER JUST UP AN' DISAPPEARED!
WE FIGGERED HE HADDA BE DEAD BY NOW!
WE CALLED HIM LIMEHOUSE JACK, GOOD SIR!
HIS GIVEN NAME WAS JOHN FRANCIS CONROY!
HOODED EYES NARROW IN SUDDEN UNDERSTANDING--
--AND SOME TIME LATER, IN A WELL-APPOINTED WEST SIDE APARTMENT...
QUENTIN CONROY, I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!
EH? WH-WHO--?!?
THE BATMAN!? WH-WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME NOW?
SOME ANSWERS, MISTER!
WHAT DOES THE NAME LIMEHOUSE JACK CONROY MEAN TO YOU?
N-NOTHING! I--I'VE NEVER HEARD THE NAME!
IS IT SUPPOSED TO MEAN SOMETHING TO ME? IS HE THE ONE WHO STOLE MY COINS?
SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME?
12
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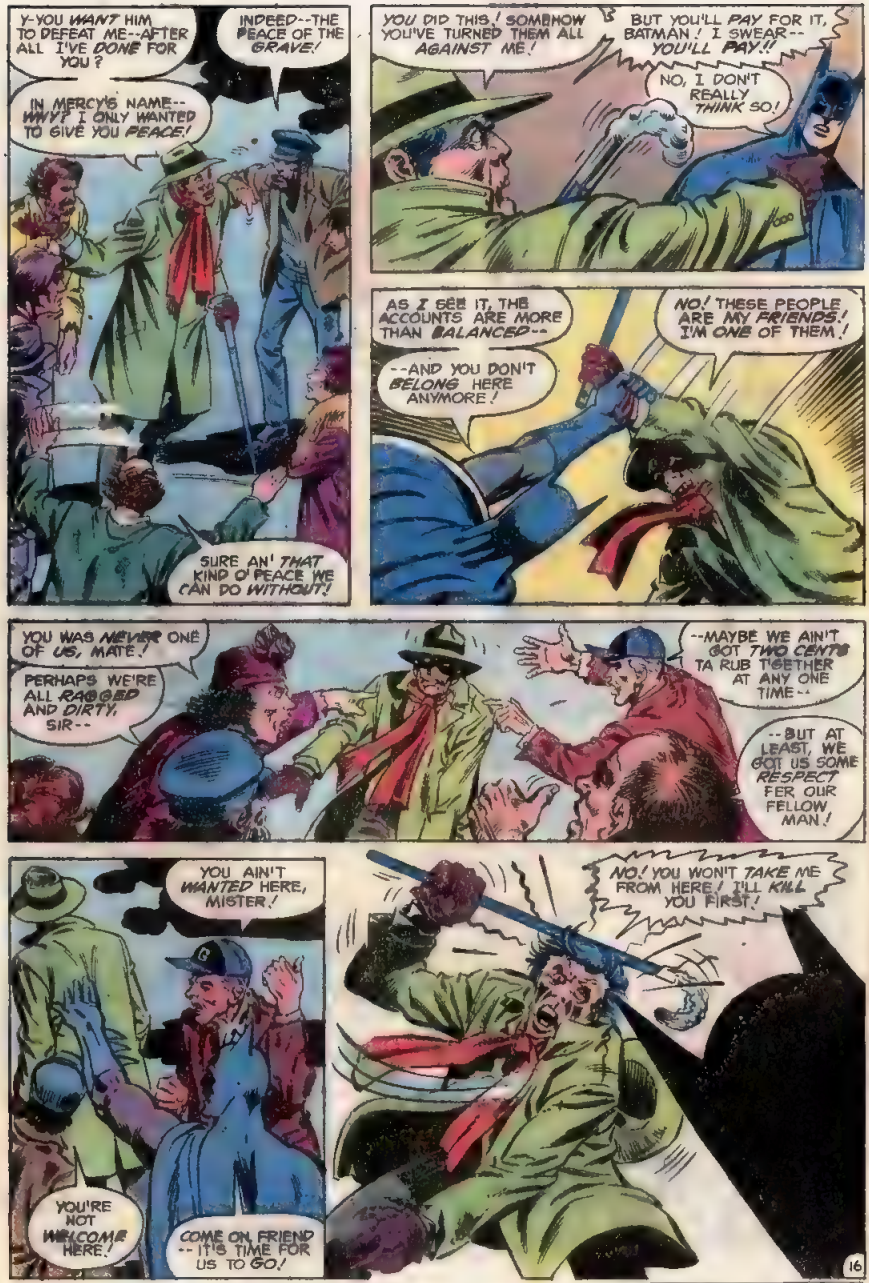
TALK TO ME, MISTER--NOW!
CURSE YOU--LEAVE ME ALONE!
WHAT RIGHT HAVE YOU TO COME INTO MY LIFE LIKE THIS--AND TEAR EVERYTHING APART?!
HE'S DEAD!--ALL BUT FORGOTTEN! WHY COULDN'T YOU LET THE PAST STAY BURIED?
WHY? WHY??
WHO IS DEAD, QUENTIN? WHO IS LIMEHOUSE JACK TO YOU?
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND, DO YOU?
LIMEHOUSE JACK CONROY WAS MY ...MY FATHER!
MY STOLEN COIN COLLECTION WAS ORIGINALLY HIS! IT WAS THE ONE THING I'D KEPT TO REMEMBER HIM BY!
WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, QUENTIN?
HE WAS A SAD, TORMENTED MAN, MY FATHER! HE RAN OUT ON US WHEN I WAS JUST A CHILD--AND TOOK TO THE STREETS!
HE CLAIMED THE PRESSURES OF THE WORLD WERE TOO MUCH FOR HIM--THAT HE WAS ONLY LOOKING FOR A LITTLE PEACE!
HE DIED IN THE GUTTER LONG BEFORE HE FOUND IT!
DID HE, CONROY?
I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER!
"THE NEXT 24 HOURS PASS SWIFTLY; NIGHT BECOMES DAY... BECOMES NIGHT ONCE MORE--
--AND THE CITY SETTLES IN TO SLEEP!

BUT HERE, IN THE SLUM RIDDEN LOWER WEST SIDE OF GOTHAM CITY, WHERE THE SUN RARELY SHINES TO BEGIN WITH, SLEEP DOES NOT COME EASILY--FOR THERE IS AN UNSPEAKABLE EVIL AFOOT ON THESE MEAN STREETS TONIGHT--
--AN EVIL THAT DOES NOT GO UNNOTICED--
--NOR ITS EFFORTS UNREWARDED!
SPARE CHANGE? K'N YA SPARE A LI'L CHANGE, BOSS?
HERE YOU ARE, MY GOOD FELLOW! MAY IT BRING YOU--
--EH?
FACE IT, FRIEND--YOU'VE MADE YOUR LAST DONATION TO CHARITY!

NO! I AM THE ONLY HOPE THESE POOR ABANDONED SOULS WILL EVER HAVE OF FINDING PEACE--
--AND NO POWER ON EARTH IS GOING TO STAY MY MERCIFUL HAND!!
SHOULDER STILL BRUISED AND BATTERED FROM LAST NIGHT--TOO PAINFUL FOR ME TO USE IT!
SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO HANDLE THIS A DIFFERENT WAY!
HIS BLIND CHARGE CARRIED HIM RIGHT OVER MY BACK!
HUH?!?
IT IS A BIZARRE ARENA, THIS GARBAGE-STREWN ALLEYWAY, BUT IN ITS FASHION, MOST APPROPRIATE--
--FOR, IT WAS ON FILTHY STREETS LIKE THIS, HUDDLED IN DARKENED DOORWAYS, CURLED UP IN GRIMY GUTTERS, THAT THE STORY OF LIMEHOUSE JACK CONROY BEGAN--
--AND IT IS HERE, AMONG A JURY OF HIS PEERS, THAT HIS STORY MAY AT LAST BE ENDED!
C'MON, BATMAN--CLOBBER DA BUM!
HOOSH
WHOOMF
GIVE 'IM A GOOD ONE, LOVIE--FER US!


Y-YOU WANT HIM TO DEFEAT ME--AFTER ALL I'VE DONE FOR YOU?
INDEED--THE PEACE OF THE GRAVE!
IN MERCY'S NAME--WHY? I ONLY WANTED TO GIVE YOU PEACE!
SURE AN' THAT KIND O' PEACE WE CAN DO WITHOUT!
YOU DID THIS! SOMEHOW YOU'VE TURNED THEM ALL AGAINST ME!
BUT YOU'LL PAY FOR IT, BATMAN! I SWEAR--YOU'LL PAY!!
NO, I DON'T REALLY THINK SO!
AS I SEE IT, THE ACCOUNTS ARE MORE THAN BALANCED--
--AND YOU DON'T BELONG HERE ANYMORE!
NO! THESE PEOPLE ARE MY FRIENDS! I'M ONE OF THEM!
YOU WAS NEVER ONE OF US, MATE!
PERHAPS WE'RE ALL RAGGED AND DIRTY, SIR--
--MAYBE WE AIN'T GOT TWO CENTS TA RUB T'GETHER AT ANY ONE TIME--
--BUT AT LEAST, WE GOT US SOME RESPECT FER OUR FELLOW MAN!
YOU AIN'T WANTED HERE, MISTER!
YOU'RE NOT WELCOME HERE!
COME ON, FRIEND--IT'S TIME FOR US TO GO!
NO! YOU WON'T TAKE ME FROM HERE! I'LL KILL YOU FIRST!
16
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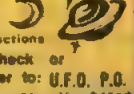

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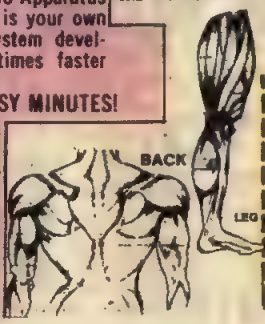

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--WHETHER IT WAS HATRED FOR THE MEMORY OF HIS FATHER -- OR A PERVERTED LOVE!
STILL, HE'S IN GOOD HANDS NOW -- AND THAT'S WHAT REALLY COUNTS!
BUT WHAT MADE YOU SUSPECT CONROY IN THE FIRST PLACE?
THE HEELS OF HIS SHOES, COMMISSIONER -- ONE HEEL WAS WORN AWAY FAR MORE THAN THE OTHER, THE WAY SOMEONE WITH A LIMP WOULD WEAR THEM!
QUENTIN CONROY DIDN'T LIMP -- BUT LIMEHOUSE JACK DID!
YOUR DEDUCTIVE ABILITIES NEVER CEASE TO AMAZE ME, BATMAN!
DEDUCTION HAD LITTLE TO DO WITH MY SOLVING THIS, COMMISSIONER -- IT WAS MOSTLY LUCK!
AYE... THE LUCK O' THE IRISH!

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ON SALE DURING THE SECOND WEEK IN NOVEMBER

BAT SIGNALS

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Dear Editor:

I've been following *The Batman* for a number of years now and I've seen him through New Looks and Big Changes and all that fol-de-rol. These days, however, David V. Reed has his own little revolution going on in *BATMAN* and I find myself enjoying it more and more. And after "Attack of the Wire-Head Killers" in #302, I'm prepared to hitch myself semi-permanently to the Reed version.

What impresses me about Reed's *Batman* is the almost total lack of emotionalism. For almost eight years, The Batman has been one of the most intensely emotional strips at *DC* under Denny O'Neil and Steve Englehart. But these days, one treads a fine line between tradition and overkill and I'm perfectly suited to Reed's placing his priority on plot!

And his plots *are* marvelous! The last time *Batman* was scripted by anyone with nearly as much plotting prowess was in the Silver Age, with Gardner Fox. But Reed's *Batman* is more human than Fox's, though there is still a great deal of forethought and detective skill involved. *Batman* constantly has to reassess and remaneuver due to that ever-constant "X—factor" that never showed up in the Fox tales. For instance, in the Wire-Head two-parter, *Batman* had to think on his feet and shuffle the deck due to Millbrook's accidental death; and, in #302, the accidental heart-attack that killed the wire-head assassin at a crucial moment. It's all great fun; by the time a Reed story ends, the original goal has been eliminated and a deft transition has been made to another. I love the shifts and the Reed handling of *Batman*—level-headed, prone to human error, but in spite of it (or perhaps because of it) still larger than life.

Characterization, while certainly played down, is nice too. Although Alfred does little these days except stand in the background and hand things to Bruce, *Robin* is doing wonderfully—he's so collegiate, as we all knew he would be—and Commissioner Gordon, one of the best supporting characters around, has seldom been more interesting.

John Calnan and Dick Giordano did a clean, precision job on the art this issue; their style is perfect for Reed's swift-paced narrative. Altogether, a very good team.

I wish I could say that I haven't enjoyed *Batman* this much in years, but actually, I've been enjoying him all along. Would you settle for an admission that I'm enjoying him as much as ever? I guess you'll have to . . . that's all I'm offering.

ALFALFA ABTOR
2121 Bero Groves
Calumet City, IL

We hope you're enjoying Len Wein's version of The Batman, Al. —BR

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

"Attack of the Wire-Head Killers" was good solid stuff—I think the name "wire-heads" is a catchy one and I hope they'll return in the future. The device of having Bruce narrate the flashback for Dick was well done, so well done that I almost forgot it was just one of those standard recaps. And later, when *Robin* (as *Batman*) is stuck with the criminals while Bruce goes gallivanting off with Melanie, I felt a warm glow for the crazy friendship these two men share in the midst of constant danger.

CAT YRONWODE
Route 1
Box 43
Mountain Grove, MO 65711

• • • • •

Dear Editor

Another great Reed/Calnan/Giordano *BATMAN*!

David V. Reed never ceases to amaze me with his weird but great *Batman* tales. "Attack of the Wirehead Killers" was both original and entertaining. The art by John Calnan and Dick Giordano was, as usual, flawless. The Strong Man and the Human Dynamo were finely depicted, Bruce and Dick were done the way they should be, and *Batman* looked almost real! (And the shots of the *Batmobile* were so good I thought it was going to drive right off the page!)

JOHN HEBERT
78 West Sand Lake Road
Troy, NY 12180

Wouldn't it be great if the Batmobile could drive off the page? Imagine the savings on a car that runs on ink instead of gasoline? —BR

• • • • •

BAT POLL RESULTS: Not too many readers took time to vote in our recent poll, but even the few votes we got tell the story. Sixteen per cent of the readers said they would like to see Batman as a loner in the magazine and 30% said they wanted to see him teamed with Robin all the time. But 52% said they would prefer occasional team-ups of the Dynamic Duo. The third choice seems to be the logical route then . . . to please most of the people most of the time! (By the way, only one reader wanted to see Batman teamed up with a new partner—he chose Batwoman.) You can be sure that editor Julie will be taking these votes into consideration . . . so watch future issues for results! —Bob Rozakis

THE SECOND GREAT SUPERMAN MOVIE CONTEST!

QUESTION ONE:

Superman

1. Women with the initals "L.L." have always played an important part in Superman's life! He met one such woman, Lori Lemaris, the mermaid from Atlantis . .
a) as Clark Kent while on assignment at sea for the Daily Planet
b) when he saved the underwater city from destruction
c) when she telepathically contacted him for help
d) while Clark was a student at Metropolis University

Christopher Reeve

SEE AD PAGES FOR RULES AND PRIZE INFORMATION

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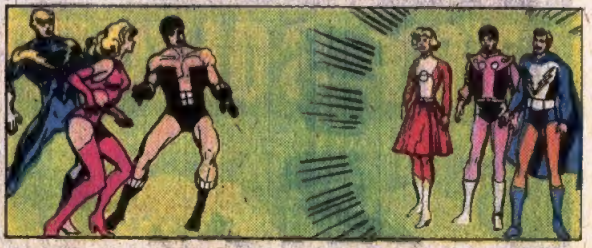
EXTRA DAILY PLANET™ EXTRA

VOLUME 78 ISSUE 40 WEEK OF OCTOBER 9, 1978 BOB ROZAKIS: EDITOR ANTHONY TOLLIN: PRODUCTION

LEGION STARS IN SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!



TWIN TALES FILL #247

(30th Century)— *Colossal Boy* and *Element Lad* are trapped by the *Fatal Five* on Cervan IV! Now *Superboy* must attack five of the deadliest menaces in the universe singlehandly—a fight he knows he cannot win! Read "Savage Sanctuary" by Len Wein, Joe Staton and Murphy Anderson in *SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #247*. BONUS: 1978 marks the 20th Anniversary of *The Legion of Super-Heroes*. The team first appeared in *ADVENTURE COMICS* #247, April, 1958. And this marks the *247th* adventure of the 30th Century's fighting teenagers—coincidentally appearing in *SUPERBOY & THE LEGION #247!*

To celebrate this *247th Anniversary Special*, you're invited to a "Celebration" courtesy of Paul Levitz, Joe Staton and David Hunt as the Legion picks a new leader—and you'll never guess who wins! Be sure to get your copy of *SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES* #247 when it goes on sale the week of October 23rd.

BATMAN AND UNKNOWN SOLDIER TEAM UP!

(Earth-2, World War II)—A German scientist working on atomic secrets for America lies dead—killed by the Nazi Count Von Stauffen! Now, *Batman* must track down the killer and prevent him from returning to Hitler with the dead scientist's secret papers—or risk losing the war!

With Von Stauffen loose on American shores, only *The Unknown Soldier* can help *The Batman* find his Nazi nemesis in time to preserve the secret of the atomic bomb!

Don't miss "The Secret That Saved The World," a World War II tale of action, danger and *death* by Bob Haney, Romeo Tanghal, and Dick Giordano when *THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD* #148 goes on sale the week of October 23rd.

DIRECT CURRENTS

ON SALE WEEK OF OCTOBER 23rd:

HOUSE OF MYSTERY #264—"Then Beggars Could Ride" is by Scott Edelman and Noly Panaligan; "The Stygian Walk" is by Steve Clement and Juan Ortiz; and Wyatt Gwyon, George Ruppert and John Celardo provide "Through a Glass, Darkly".

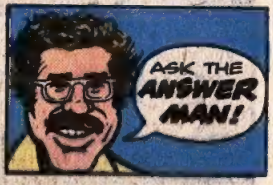
SGT. ROCK #324—*Rock* and Easy Company come up against the "Ghost of a Yank" by Robert Kanigher and Frank Redondo. Plus a Battle Album on The Alamo.

SUPERMAN #331—Metropolis gains a new type of prison . . . and some startling inmates in "Lock-up at 20,000 Feet" by Marty Pasko, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte.

WEIRD WESTERN #51—*Scalphunter* finds himself in the middle of "The Plot to Kill Lincoln" in this Gerry Conway/Dick Ayers collaboration.

AND ON SALE RIGHT NOW:

ADVENTURE COMICS #461 / GHOSTS #72 / JUSTICE LEAGUE #162 / SUPERMAN FAMILY #193 / UNEXPECTED #189 / WEIRD WAR #71 / MEN OF WAR #12 / DC COMICS PRESENTS #5 / BATMAN #307 / FLASH #269 / JONAH HEX #20



Q: Will you show *Superman*'s origin again?—Szelim Kong. *A*: It's recapped in our *FAMOUS FIRST EDITION* of *SUPERMAN* #1 and will be shown in detail in the upcoming *Superman* movie!

Q: Will we be seeing *Batman* battling Ra's al Ghul and Talia again soon?—Unsigned. *A*: They appeared in the *BATMAN SPECTACULAR*.

Q: How many stretchable super-heroes are there?—Stanley Overly. *A*: Offhand, I can think of *Elongated Man*, *Plastic Man*, *Elastic Lad* and Marvel's *Mr. Fantastic*.

Q: How can *Superman* and *Batman* see their *Super-Sons* in *WORLD'S FINEST* if they're not married?—Timothy Robinson. *A*: By using a computer forecaster in *Superman*'s Fortress of Solitude.

Q: Can *The Flash* get tired?—Bobby Moore. *A*: Eventually.

Q: How much is *JLA* #45 worth?—Michel Gauthier. *A*: In good condition, about 60¢.

Q: How about an *Adam Strange* story *somewhere?*—*Lawrence T. Bridget. A*: He appeared in *DC COMICS PRESENTS* #3 . . . or did you miss him?

Q: How long does it take from the time we send our questions till the time you answer them?—Judy Marco. *A*: Your letter is dated March 2nd. I'm writing this column on July 7th. What date are you reading this column?

Q: Where is Snapper Carr?—Ben Scibetta. *A*: Working in *SUPERMAN FAMILY*.

Q: What is the relationship between *Aquaman* and *Aqualad*?—Jimmy E. Pendergrass. *A*: They are just friends, there is no blood relation.

Q: Is *Firestorm* going to join the *JLA*?—Matt Schmidt. *A*: Not in the near future.

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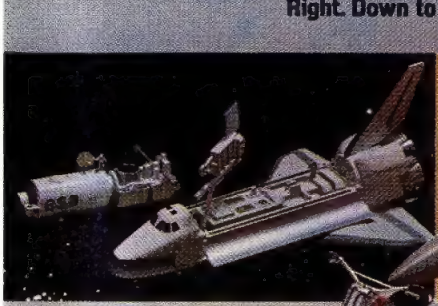
Right. Down to the last detail.



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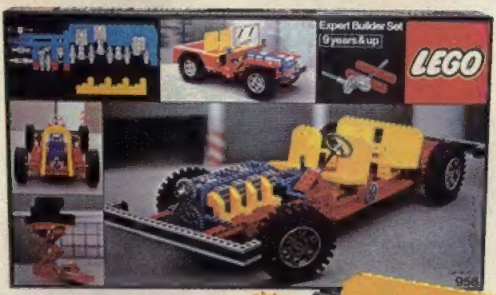

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